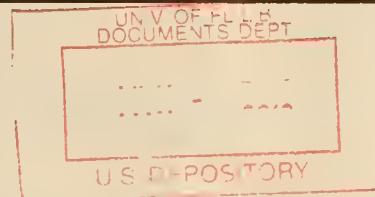


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POTATO STOCKS

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Crop
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POTATO STOCKS 12 PERCENT ABOVE LAST YEAR

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the fall production areas totaled a record high 79.1 million cwt. on April 1, 1977, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 8.5 million cwt. (12 percent) above the 70.6 million cwt. on hand a year earlier and 3.2 million cwt. (4 percent) more than April 1, 1975.

Stocks in the eight Eastern States on April 1, 1977 totaled 10.3 million cwt., down 8 percent from the 11.2 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks at 8.4 million cwt. compare with 9.4 million on hand a year earlier.

Stocks in the eight Central States totaled 8.1 million cwt., up 12 percent from the 7.3 million cwt. on hand April 1, 1976. Stocks were 4 percent higher in North Dakota and 11 percent above a year ago in Minnesota.

Stocks in the eight Western States totaled 60.7 million cwt., up 17 percent from the 52.1 million cwt. on hand April 1, 1976. Most of the increases in stocks were in Washington (up 5.2 million) and Oregon (up 3.4 million cwt.).

Disappearance of the 1976 fall crop to April 1, 1977 totaled 218.4 million cwt. (excluding Nevada), up 8 percent from the 201.4 million cwt. moved during the comparable period a year earlier.

The accumulated quantity of potatoes processed in seven major States to April 1, 1977 totaled 88.4 million cwt., an increase of 14.4 million or 19 percent over the quantity processed during the same period a year ago.

APR 15 1977

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CROPS OF 1966-76 IN THE FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS			
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR		
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1
1,000 CWT					
1966	228,442	153,550	128,050	103,630	79,632
1967	231,656	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,405
1968	221,906	152,810	130,350	104,995	81,940
1969	239,460	162,800	138,140	111,510	87,620
1970	253,525	175,145	150,030	122,830	96,780
1971 <u>1/</u>	266,686	176,340	151,400	124,370	98,480
1972	248,841	158,440	134,320	107,165	83,305
1973	253,866	157,802	133,585	106,600	81,150
1974	288,674	187,715	162,900	133,245	104,051
1975 <u>3/</u>	276,055	183,305	156,995	129,065	102,485
1976	302,818	198,440	169,235	139,715	109,535

1/ BEGINNING WITH 1971 LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR NEW YORK-LONG ISLAND, WISCONSIN AND WASHINGTON HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.

2/ APRIL 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.

3/ REVISED AUGUST 1976 POT 6 (76).

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, 1/ SEVEN STATES 1975 AND 1976 CROPS 2/

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO	TO	TO	TO	TO	ENTIRE
		DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	SEASON
1,000 CWT							
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO, OREG	1975-76	14,360	19,270	24,360	30,195	36,635	57,000
	1976-77	18,030	24,135	29,960	36,205	43,420	
MAINE <u>3/</u>	1975-76	1,735	2,350	2,950	3,640	4,415	5,965
	1976-77	2,610	3,370	4,225	5,105	6,060	
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1975-76	12,945	16,355	19,635	23,400	27,820	39,090
	1976-77	16,440	19,935	23,620	27,930	32,040	
OTHER STATES <u>4/</u>	1975-76	2,456	3,045	3,660	4,315	5,165	5,940
	1976-77	2,515	3,485	4,600	5,685	6,910	
TOTAL	1975-76	31,496	41,020	50,605	61,550	74,035	107,995
	1976-77	39,595	50,925	62,405	74,925	88,430	

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE, MICHIGAN OR MINNESOTA.

2/ 1975-76 REVISED. 3/ INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY. 4/ MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, NORTH DAKOTA.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON APRIL 1, 1976 AND APRIL 1, 1977

STATE	CROP OF 1975		CROP OF 1976	
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS
	APR 1, 1976	APR 1, 1977	1,000 CWT	
CALIF	6,365	1,300	6,475	1,100
COLO	8,613	1,950	9,075	2,000
CONN	552	1/	494	1/
IDAHO	76,865	33,000	85,175	33,500
IND	1,440	60	1,403	70
MAINE	26,840	9,400	27,440	8,400
MASS	718	1/	704	1/
MICH	6,670	800	8,330	1,300
MINN	9,690	1,900	11,055	2,100
MONT	1,748	1,190	1,806	980
NEBR	1,225	240	1,274	250
N H	92	1/	104	1/
N Y - L I	6,058	240	6,931	100
- UPSTATE	6,120	900	6,101	530
N DAK	17,600	2,500	16,940	2,600
OHIO	2,024	80	2,499	140
OREG	24,408	4,150	28,913	7,500
PA	6,815	650	7,140	1,140
R I	987	1/	1,029	1/
S DAK	598	70	286	40
UTAH	1,508	170	1,248	90
VT	212	1/	205	1/
WASH	48,300	10,000	55,800	15,200
WIS	14,850	1,600	15,370	1,620
WYO	1,632	300	1,701	370
OTH STS		60		75
24 STATE TOTAL	271,930	70,560	297,498	79,105
NEV	4,125	2/	5,320	2/
TOTAL 25 FALL STATES	276,055	70,560	302,818	79,105

1/ STOCKS INCLUDED IN "OTHER STATES."

2/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE.



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POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY

Minnesota and North Dakota (Red River Valley)

The information contained in this report is based on a potato stocks quality survey conducted by the Statistical Reporting Service in the Red River Valley.

A total of 230 samples selected on a random basis were placed in storage at the time of harvest. Samples recovered from storage before April 1, 1977 averaged a greater proportion of U. S. No. 1 potatoes after storage than a year ago for Red and Russet varieties but a smaller proportion for Whites. The percent of Red, White and Russet varieties that graded U. S. No. 1 (including B's) was 83, 65, and 71 percent respectively, and compares with 80, 78, and 67 percent by April 1 a year earlier. The decline in U. S. No. 1 grade for Reds and Russets since time of harvest is indicated at 11 and 15 percent respectively and 24 percent for White varieties. This compares with declines of 8 percent for Reds and Whites and 15 percent for Russets during the same period a year earlier.

The percent graded as culls was the same as a year ago for Reds and Whites at 9 percent while Russets graded 6 percent culls compared with 10 percent last year. Total weight loss while in storage was higher than a year ago for Whites, unchanged for Russets and lower for Reds. Weight loss ranges from 3 to 5 percent.

Final data for the 1975-76 storage season are also provided and show the average grade at harvest and after storage for all samples recovered from storage.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1976-77
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES SHIPPED: 1/

VARIETAL TYPE	NO. 1 INCLUDING B'S AT HARVEST	NO. 2 AT STORAGE	CULLS AT HARVEST	NO. 1 B'S: AFTER HARVEST	WEIGHT LOSS
	PER CENT				
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1977					
RED	93	83	4	8	9
WHITE	86	65	8	14	21
RUSSET	84	71	9	11	18
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1976					
RED	87	80	7	10	10
WHITE	85	78	8	9	13
RUSSET	79	67	13	14	19
ALL SAMPLES 1975-76 STORAGE SEASON-FINAL					
RED	88	81	6	9	10
WHITE	84	77	8	9	14
RUSSET	80	73	13	12	15

1/ MATCHED SAMPLES, QUALITY AT HARVEST COMPARED WITH QUALITY AFTER STORAGE.

2/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U. S. NO 1 GRADE BUT DID NOT MEET MINIMUM SIZE STANDARDS FOR THE AREA; RED AND WHITE VARIETIES 1 1/2 - 2 1/4 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND RUSSET VARIETIES UNDER 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER OR WEIGHT LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.